(Rs. in lakhs)

Programme	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
IRDP	2506.29	2883.11	1786.96
JRY	18989.61	19088.77	8873.18
EAS	6550.00	10970.00	11560.00
IAY	—	—	2978.15

The information :r percentage of total area of States including the State of Karnataka under rural areas is not maintained by the Ministry.

Funds provided for rural water supply programme in Maharashtra

113. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided to Maharashtra for rural water supply programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan and funds earmarked for the purpose during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) how many habitations were provided with safe drinking water facilities in the State during Eighth Plan period;

(c) the target for the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) how Government propose to meet the targets?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) An amount of Rs. 307.496 crore was provided to Maharashtra under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan. An amount of Rs. 106.02 crore has been allocated for 1997-98. The outlay for the remaining four years of the Ninth Five Year Plan has not been decided.

(b) 21930 villages/habitations were provided with safe drinking water facilities in the state during the Eighth Plan period.

(c) The target for the Ninth Five Year Plan is to cover 173 'Not Covered' and 38330 'Partially Covered' habitations in the State.

(d) The targets are proposed to be achieved under the ARWSP, Basic Minimum Services and the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme.

Identification of potential ground water zones in Gujarat

114. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some potential ground water zones have been identified in the 19 districts of Gujarat in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to utilise the ground water potential in these districts of the State to provide safe drinking water to the rural populace?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The significant findings of surveys and exploration of ground water carried out by the Central Ground Water Board, in Gujarat State are as under:—

(i) Delineation of potential deep fresh water aquifer system in Tertiary Sandstones suitable for development by deep tubewells in the districts of Kutch, Rajkot, Sabarkantha and potential fresh water zones in Linestone in Saurashtra Coast underlain by saline water environment.

(ii) Providing productive deep fresh water aquifer system in alluvial formations in the depth range of 200 to 500 meter below ground level, capable of sustained development by deep tubewells in the districts of Central Gujarat Saurashtra and coastal districts.

(iii) Delineation of free flowing zones in cambay basin.

(iv) Feasibility for development of ground water by dug wells., dug-cum-bore wells and bore wells in North East parts underlain by hard rocks.

(c) Based on the techno-economic considerations of the schemes/projects, and the level of utilisation of ground water, the State Government is expected to initiate appropriate programmes for optimal utilisation of ground water for providing safe drinking water to rural population.

Installation of Solar Photo Voltaic Pumping System in Gujarat

115. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have installed Solar Photo Voltaic Pumping System to augment water supply in the rural parts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to substantially increase the number of such pumping systems in the State during 1997-98; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 7 pumping system in 7 villages of 3 districts have been installed as under:—

1. Surendranagar	:	(i) Sangania
		(ii) Khintia
		(iii) Mojidad
		(iv) Devasar
		(v) Bhimgarh
2. Jamnagar	:	(vi) Khakahara
3. Bharuch	:	(vii) Patti Dattawada

(c) and (d) The State will be sanctioned more such units subject to the availability of suitable sites for their installation.

Construction of East coast road project

116. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made on construction of proposed East coast road project linking Chennaiah to the South along the Coastline; and

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) About 82 percent.

(b) The target date of completion of the project is March, 1998.

Reduction in country's cargo carried by Indian ships

117. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a continuous reduction in the country's cargo being carried by Indian ships during the 8th Five Year Plan, year-wise targets and achievements;

(b) the main reasons for the shortfall; and

(c) the rate of ship requisition and the reasons for lowering the targets?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) There has been a reduction in percentage terms in the carriage of India's overseas trade by Indian vessels during the 8th Plan period. However, in terms of volume, there has been no apreciable reduction. The year-wise share of Indian shipping in India's overseas trade during the 8th Plan period is as under: